

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Köster et al.

Serial No.: 08/933,792

Filed: September 19, 1997

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR
IMMOBILIZING NUCLEIC ACIDS
TO SOLID SUPPORTS

Group Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Kunz, Z.

Gp 1623
#16
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08/18/99

Date

Stephanie L. Seidman



RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed, August 2, 1999, consideration of
the following remarks is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-24 are pending in the application. The Office Action urges
that the previous response was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action.
The only rejection in the prior Office Action was a rejection under 35 U.S.C.
§101 for statutory double patenting. To address this issue, claim 6 was
cancelled, and claims 1 and 9, the independent claims were amended to
incorporate limitations from claim 6 that were not identically claimed in the
parent application U.S. application Serial No. 08/746,036, which is now U.S.
Patent No. 5,900,481. Therefore, the previous response was fully responsive.

Basis in the specification

Furthermore, since claims 1 and 9 incorporate limitations from cancelled
claim 6, claims 1-5 and 10-14 find particular basis in original claims 1-14.
Claims 15-24 were added. These claims find particular basis in specification as
originally filed.